

Atty. Ref.:SJ0000019US2 (60717-300502)

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Amendments to Claims:

Please amend the claims as in the following listing:

What is claimed is:

1 (1-19 canceled)

1 20. (Currently amended) An apparatus for creating high crown and camber curvature in slider
2 materials having an air bearing surface and a flex side, comprising:

3 a laser which produces a pulsed laser beam for machining the slider material, the laser
4 beam having a pulse width in the range of 1×10^{-9} seconds to 1×10^{-3} seconds, with an energy
5 per pulse in the range of [1] 10 to 1,000,000 microJoules, and a repetition rate between 1Hz and
6 400Hz;

7 at least one beam directing device, which directs the laser beam onto the flex side of the
8 slider material; and

9 a fluence varying device so that optimal fluence is achieved to produce optimal curvature.

1 21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein:

2 the fluence varying device is at least one focusing lens which directs the laser beam to
3 focus within a focal plane and a movable fixture which varies the position of the slider material
4 with respect to the focal plane.

1 22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein:

2 the movable fixture is a movable stage upon which the slider material is attached, and by
3 which the slider material is moved relative to the focal plane.

1 23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein:

2 the movable fixture is a movable stage upon which the lens is attached, and by which the
3 focal plane is moved relative to the slider material.

1 24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the laser is Q-switched.

1 25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the laser beam is produced through harmonic
2 generation.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the laser beam is moved by at least one
2 directing device.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein at least one directing optic includes at least
2 one reflecting mirror.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the laser beam is conditioned with a beam
2 expander that has adjustable beam expansion.

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- 1 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the slider material is one or more rows of
2 sliders.

(30-37 canceled.)

- 1 38. (Canceled)

- 1 39. (Canceled)

- 1 40. (Canceled)